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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

ROLLINSFORD MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO USING AND CARRYING A FIREARM

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Concord Police Chief Jerome Madden announced that William Crabb, age 27, of Rollinsford, New Hampshire pleaded guilty today in the United States District Court to using and carrying a firearm in connection with a crime of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance. Crabb admitted his guilt to the charge during a hearing before U.S. District Judge Paul Barbadoro.

On May 12, 2003, Concord Police Department officers responded to a call for assistance from a man being threatened with a handgun. Upon arriving at an apartment complex on Fisherville Road in Concord, officers saw Crabb carrying a blue cooler across a parking lot and placing the cooler into the trunk of a parked car. Police then observed Crabb walk into an apartment in the complex. A search of the apartment revealed that the defendant and others possessed cocaine. A search of the vehicle and the cooler revealed that the cooler contained two handguns - a Smith & Wesson .357 revolver and a Colt .45 semi-automatic.

Crabb is facing a minimum sentence of five years to a maximum prison term of up to life imprisonment, and fines of up to \$250,000.00. He was detained pending a sentencing hearing which is scheduled for February 18, 2005.

U.S. Attorney Tom Colantuono praised the work of the Concord Police Department. U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case and others prosecuted by this office are fine examples of the importance of removing from our streets those individuals who deal drugs and use firearms in their drug dealings. The Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative is dedicated to addressing these threats to our citizenry."

The Concord Police Department was the lead investigative agency on this case. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Aixa Maldonado-Quiñones.